

[8th August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Central Government in the wake of hijacking of an Indian Airlines aircraft last December has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with its major recommendations;

(c) whether the report is likely to be Tabled in Parliament; if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what follow-up action is proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No such Committee was constituted.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Air Service between Chennai and Pondicherry

1716. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to link Pondicherry to Chennai again with flights; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for commencing the flight service?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Airlines are free to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines, which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes.

Financial Performance of AAI

1717. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even as Government are going ahead with its privatisation plan for international airports at the four Metros, the Airports Authority of India's (AAI) net profits are declining due to growing expenditure; and

(b) if so, what are Government views on this?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.